

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

1. (Original) A rotational-operation-quantity input device for inputting an operation quantity indicating a predetermined rotation angle, comprising:
  - a two-dimensional force sensor for inputting an operational force applied by an operator in time series as a coordinate value (x, y) in an XY two-dimensional rectangular coordinate system;
  - a polar-coordinate converting section for sequentially converting the coordinate value (x, y) in the rectangular coordinate system given in time series into a coordinate value (r,  $\theta$ ) in a polar coordinate system; and
  - an operation-quantity recognizing section for recognizing a variation in a value  $\theta$  of the coordinate value (r,  $\theta$ ) obtained in time series as an operation quantity indicating a rotation angle.
2. (Original) The rotational-operation-quantity input device as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the operation-quantity recognizing section recognizes the coordinate value (r,  $\theta$ ) as a significant coordinate value when value r of the coordinate value (r,  $\theta$ ) is larger than a predetermined threshold  $r_t$ , and recognizes an operation quantity based on a variation in a value  $\theta$  in consideration of only a significant coordinate value (r,  $\theta$ ).
3. (Original) The rotational-operation-quantity input device as set forth in Claim 2, wherein the operation-quantity recognizing section recognizes an operation quantity based on a variation in value  $\theta$  during a continuous period when a significant coordinate value (r,  $\theta$ ) is obtained continuously.

4. (Original) The rotational-operation-quantity input device as set forth in Claim 3, wherein, when a value  $\theta$  generates a variation  $\Delta\theta$  exceeding a predetermined threshold  $\theta_t$  with respect to a value " $\theta_{\text{before}}$ " immediately therebefore during a continuous period during which a significant coordinate value  $(r, \theta)$  is obtained continuously, the operation-quantity recognizing section recognizes a value corresponding to the variation  $\Delta\theta$  as an operation quantity.

5. (Currently Amended) The rotational-operation-quantity input device as set forth in ~~any one of Claims 1 through 4~~, wherein the two-dimensional force sensor includes a sensor body, an operating panel that can be inclined in an X-axis direction and in a Y-axis direction independently of each other with respect to the sensor body, and detection means for detecting a coordinate value  $x$  and a coordinate value  $y$  based on a degree of an inclination in the X-axis direction and in the Y-axis direction of the operating panel.

6. (Currently Amended) An operating device including the input device as set forth in ~~any one of Claims 1 through 5~~, having an operational function to specify an icon, comprising:

icon display means for annularly displaying a plurality of icons on a display screen;

distinguishing means for displaying an indicator to distinguish a specified icon on the display screen by receiving an instruction to specify one of the plurality of icons;

initial-icon specifying means for specifying any one of the plurality of icons as a first specified icon; and

specified-icon changing means for giving an instruction to change the specified icon into a new icon disposed at a position having an interval corresponding to an operation quantity recognized by the operation-quantity recognizing section of the input device.

7. (Currently Amended) An operating device including the input device as set forth in ~~any one of~~ Claims 1 ~~through~~ 5, being used for volume control or for forwarding/rewinding control in reproducing sound, comprising:

rotation knob display means for displaying a rotation knob used to perform a volume control operation or a forwarding/rewinding control operation in reproducing sound on the display screen; and

control means for determining a rotation quantity of the rotation knob correspondingly with an operation quantity recognized by the operation-quantity recognizing section of the input device and causing the rotation knob display means to perform a display corresponding to the rotation quantity while performing volume control or forwarding/rewinding control correspondingly with the rotation quantity.

8. (Currently Amended) An operating device including the input device as set forth in ~~any one of~~ Claims 1 ~~through~~ 5, being used for frame feed in reproducing moving image, comprising:

rotation knob display means for displaying a rotation knob used to perform a frame feed operation in reproducing moving image on the display screen; and

control means for determining a number of frames to be fed correspondingly with an operation quantity recognized by the operation-quantity recognizing section of the input device and causing the rotation knob display means to perform a display indicating a rotational operation corresponding to the number of frames.